

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting osteoclast-mediated bone resorption, comprising inhibiting activity of a gene product encoded by an osteoclast associated gene, ~~said gene being selected from the group consisting of OC 1-285, SEQ ID NO: 4, 34, 38, and 43~~ OC14, wherein said osteoclast-associated gene OC14 comprises the nucleotide sequence:

tggagcagag gttccattg tgtctctca agcagaaaacg gttggcctnt gtgttgcaac cctcagcatc  
gcagtgccta tacgaattct gactacattc ctgatggtgt gtttcgcctgg cttaaacata aaggaaaaga  
tatttatttc tttgcctgg ctccaaagg ccacggtcca ggctgccatt ggctctgtgg ctctggacac  
ggcaagatcc cacggagaga agcagctgga agactatggg atggatgtgc tgacggtggc atttttgcc  
atccctatta cagcaccaat tgaagccta ctgattgggt tgctgggtcc cagggttctt cagaaatctg  
aacatcgAAC cgaaggagg gtcaaggag agacttctgc acacattca aggaagcctg aggattccat  
tacggaaGCC ttagggacca ttgttaccat cccaaaccaa aggttttgc cctccaacaa ccgggacaac  
tttacttccc ttgactcag aagaaaaactt cccgtggaat ttcataagca aacaatttag aaagcttac  
gctgctaaca gtacctcagg tgTTTacttc ctcagaaaga ccggaggaca gttacttca gaaagtgaga  
gaaagttaatt tggacaaata aacattcac gatttgt (SEQ ID NO:50).

2. - 24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said activity of a gene product encoded by OC14 is inhibited by administering a compound that inhibits the activity of said gene product.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of a fusion protein, a polypeptide, a peptidomimetic, an antisense polynucleotide, a prodrug, an antibody, a small molecule inhibitor, or a ribozyme.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 1.5-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

28. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 3-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

29. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 5-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.
30. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 10% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.
31. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 50% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.
32. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 75% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.
33. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 90% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.